

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
NOVEMBER 26, 2007 – 7:00 PM**

PRESENT: Ben Moore, Chairman
Bill Lally, Vice Chairman
James Workman
Virginia Bridle-Russell
Rick Griffin
Fred Welch, Town Manager
Maureen Duffy, Administrative Assistant

REGRETS:

Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and introduced those in attendance.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Mr. Lally reported that the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee will be meeting this Wednesday, November 28 at 7 p.m. in the Board of Selectmen's meeting room.

Mr. Workman reminded residents about the Children's Holiday Carnival this Saturday, December 1 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lafayette Road will be closed from High Street to Foss Manufacturing.

II. APPOINTMENTS

1. FIRE CHIEF LIPE – UPDATE

Fire Chief Hank Lipe discussed the Fire Department toy bank. He publicly recognized Mary Toohil who is making homemade Christmas puppets for the toy bank. She is working diligently to ensure that all needy children in Hampton receive a puppet this Christmas. Ms. Toohil is a long time Hampton resident whose goal is to make underprivileged children happy.

Chief Lipe thanked that Board of Selectmen for their support at last week's meeting regarding the hose, line truck and Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus. He is hopeful that these essential items can be purchased before the end of the year to alleviate the 2008 budget pressure.

There were 203 fire service calls and 261 EMS calls from October through to November. The year to date total for calls for fire service is 3,049 and 2,205 for EMS calls.

The Fire Department will be receiving \$210,891 from the Firefighter Investment and Response Enhancement Act through the Department of Homeland Security for purchasing Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus. The Town's matching portion is \$11,099.

The Fire Bureau has completed the fall fire safety program for students through the fifth grade. The trailer has been at all of the education seminars. For a safe holiday season, the Bureau reminded residents to keep Christmas trees watered and not to overload sockets. Individuals are to call the Bureau if they have any questions.

Deputy Fire Chief Silver reports that training goals for 2007 have been met.

Chief Lipe is waiting for written confirmation from Unitil to secure the offer for the used line truck. According to the Chief, the vehicle is in great shape. Once there is a commitment letter, the current fire line truck may be declared surplus by the Selectmen.

Chief Lipe reported that there is one fire personnel out on sick leave but should return to work on December 13. Another staff member has been injured in an unrelated work incident and will be gone for six to eight weeks.

The beach station is now mold and lead paint free.

Mr. Lally questioned if the staff member who was recently injured is receiving workers compensation. Chief Lipe reported that the sick bank is being utilized as it was an unrelated work injury.

Mr. Moore asked for a statistical report from the Chief with all the calls over the past year. He also noted that all remaining Fire Department articles will be discussed at the December 10th meeting.

Mr. Workman asked if there is a list of all the locations to drop off donations for the toy bank. Chief Lipe will provide a complete list as soon as possible.

2. KEVIN O'BRIEN – THE HAPPY CLAM BAR & GRILLE (20 L STREET) – LIQUOR AND ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT

Mr. O'Brien is in the process of purchasing The Happy Clam Bar & Grille. As required by the NH Liquor Commission the new owner is required to receive consent from the Town to serve alcohol and have entertainment on the premises.

Chairman Moore mentioned that the Hampton Police Department has indicated that there have been issues with illegal gambling within the establishment. Mr. O'Brien said that he was not involved with the illegal activity. Mr. Griffin asked what type of entertainment there will be. Mr. O'Brien said that they are planning on having karaoke and small bands. He also noted that all entertainment will be contained within the building.

Mr. Griffin MOTIONED to approve the entertainment permit for the Happy Clam Bar & Grille and that the Board has no objection to a liquor license to be issued by the NH Liquor Commission. **Mr. Lally SECONDED.**
VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

III. MINUTES – NOVEMBER 19, 2007

The November 19, 2007 minutes stand approved as distributed

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Welch reported that the bid was awarded to Granite State Minerals for the Town's supply of road salt (\$47.73 per ton).

December 2nd, marks the 144 anniversary of the passing of Jane Means Appleton Pierce born in Hampton on March 12, 1806. She was the 14th First Lady of the United States.

Mr. Workman asked how the salt bid compares to last year. Mr. Welch said that it was slightly up but he has talked to other town administrators who are paying \$50 per ton.

2. PUBLIC WORKS WARRANT ARTICLES

Item was tabled for new business.

3. GENERAL AND FIRE DEPARTMENT WARRANT ARTICLES

Chairman Moore provided a general overview of the remaining articles that require further discussion. The bike path article will be discussed at the December 3rd meeting.

The Town Manager is waiting for further notice from the State regarding the court house article. The last information he received from the NH Department of Transportation (DOT) suggested that they were not interested in declaring the land as surplus property.

On January 7th the Selectmen will be discussing Cemetery articles.

There are still six social services that have yet to submit letters requesting level funding.

Mr. Griffin asked for further clarification regarding the court house. The Town Manager explained that there is a piece of land on the east side of the interstate owned by the DOT that is suitable for a new district court house. In order for the court house to be built on the land, the DOT is required to categorize it as surplus property. At this time the DOT has declined to cooperate with the effort. Mr. Welch noted that the District Court lease in Seabrook will expire in two years. He also pointed out that Hampton is next in line for court house funding.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Griffin asked if the Selectmen are responsible for calling a special election to replace NH Representative Jane Kelly. The Town Manager will contact the Secretary of State to determine what the Town's responsibility is.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. LIBRARY AND RECREATION WARRANT ARTICLES

Library Trustee, Sara Casassa addressed the Board. The only article the Lane Memorial Library has submitted is to replace the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system. The current system is approximately 25 years old and has chronic maintenance problems which have resulted in an increase in frequency and cost for service.

The Capital Improvement Program Committee identified the system as a critical need. It is anticipated that the building will be in use for many years to come and a functioning HVAC system is necessary. The article asks voters to raise and appropriate \$350,000 to renovate the system.

Inadequate ventilation is also creating secondary issues such as mold.

Chairman Moore asked if the ducts would need to be replaced or if the existing ones would be renovated. Mrs. Casassa believes that the price includes the renovation of the ducts. Mr. Moore asked if the Trustees have considered the \$100,000 surplus fund to assist in covering the cost of the system. It was unclear to Mrs. Casassa and Technical Service Engineer, Bill Teschek which fund Mr. Moore was suggesting.

Mr. Griffin MOTIONED to move the proposed library HVAC replacement article to the warrant. **Mr. Workman SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mrs. Casassa noted that Hampton voters have been very generous to the Library over the years.

Recreation and Parks Director Dyana Martin addressed the Board. She said that this is the fourth year for the proposed tennis court repair article. The courts are approximately 41 years old and are in desperate need of repair. The Director would also like to add a basketball court to the end of the proposed court. Over \$72,000 from parking lot revenues and \$2,400 in fundraising events is currently available toward the repair of the courts. The remaining amount to be raised by taxes is \$41,000. The total cost of the project is \$115,000.

Mr. Moore asked where the funds are that have been raised by special events. Mrs. Martin stated that the jewelry party figure is in a donation fund and the amount raised by the high school is still at the school. Mr. Moore inquired why the Director does not consider using the 2008 parking lot revenues (the allocated 20% parking revenues per 2006 warrant article). Mrs. Martin is concerned that there may be an article submitted this year that rescinds last year's article.

Mr. Griffin MOTIONED to move the proposed tennis court article to the warrant. **Mr. Workman SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Director Martin has also submitted a hockey rink repair article. She reported that the dasher boards at the inline hockey rink at Lew Brown Park need to be repaired for a cost of \$70,000. Mrs. Martin said that the boards are in poor shape and have become a hazard. The cost of the repairs is for fiberglass. Mr. Moore asked what the cost would be to have the boards replaced with plywood. He also asked how many people use the facility. Mrs. Martin reported that at least eight to ten people of all ages use the rink every day from May to September. At this point, Mrs. Martin would need to research the cost of plywood.

Mr. Lally questioned if this article may hinder the chances of the tennis court article from passing.

Director Martin is uncertain how to close the rink. Mr. Workman asked if it would be possible to band aid the existing boards. Mr. Moore would like to see the cost of plywood to accomplish the repair.

Public Works Director, John Hangen addressed the Board. There were three possible highway improvement articles presented to the Board.

Mr. Hangen noted that the highway improvement articles are popular with voters.

Chairman Moore asked the Director which article is his preference. Mr. Hangen replied that the third article asking the Town to raise and appropriate \$350,000 to improve Carlson Road, Sanborn Road, Dearborn Avenue, Acorn Street, Smith Avenue, Dumas Avenue, Cliff Avenue, Sunsurf Avenue, Trafford Road and Hurd Road is his preference.

Mr. Lally MOTIONED to move the proposed Roadway Maintenance (#3) article to the warrant. **Mr. Workman SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

The Director has also put forward a drainage study update article. The last time a study was completed regarding this subject was in 1986.

Mr. Workman MOTIONED to move the drainage study update article to the warrant. **Mr. Lally SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

As requested by the Selectmen, the Town Manager developed a Capital Reserve Fund article to address the Public Works equipment needs. Mr. Moore asked why the equipment presented on the list was not on the CIP list. Mr. Hangen said that it is his fault not bringing these items forward earlier. He also pointed out that the equipment needs are well known to Hampton residents.

Mr. Workman believes that the fund makes sense.

Mr. Lally MOTIONED to move the proposed Public Works Equipment Capital Reserve Fund article to the warrant. **Mr. Workman SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Hangen discussed the importance of a compactor at the Transfer Station. It could be used to increase capacity at the station by 1/3. There was no motion regarding this suggestion.

2. AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN THE WASTE MANAGEMENT, AMENDMENT ONE – COLLECT, TRANSPORT, AND MARKET RECYCLABLE SOLID WASTE MATERIALS AGREEMENT

Mr. Hangen reported that the new contract permits flexibility and income from some of the recycled materials.

Mr. Griffin MOTIONED to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Waste Management, Amendment One - Agreement. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Griffin noted that the Energy Committee has decided to endorse the bike path. Mr. Moore pointed out that eight parking spaces would be eliminated along High Street if the path was to be built.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

None

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

VIII. CLOSING COMMENTS:

None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lally MOTIONED to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. **Mr. Workman SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Chairman